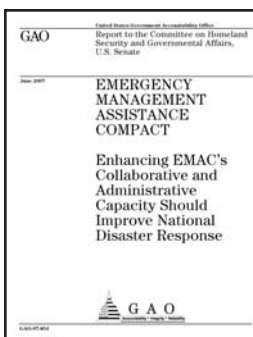


Preparedness and Planning

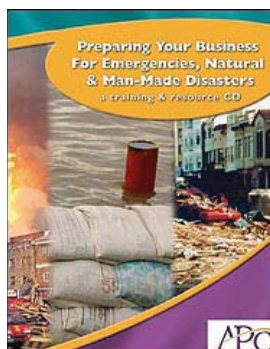
Enhancing the Emergency Management Assistance Compact

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) is a collaborative arrangement among member states that provides a legal framework for requesting resources. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) was asked to (1) examine how the use of EMAC has changed since its inception; (2) assess how well existing policies, procedures, and practices facilitate collaboration; and (3) evaluate the adequacy of the EMAC network's administrative capacity to achieve its mission. GAO made [recommendations](#) to the Secretaries of the Departments of Homeland Security and Defense to further enhance the administrative capacity required to support the EMAC network and to develop guidance and to formalize certain procedures to alleviate burdens experienced by EMAC members during catastrophic disasters.



New State and Local Disabilities Resources Map

The federal government's one-stop website for disability-related information and resources recently unveiled a new feature, a state and local resources map, designed to assist visitors with finding disability-related information in their own states and localities. While [DisabilityInfo.gov](#) is now well-known as a comprehensive source for government information at the federal level, this new feature enables users to search for disability service organizations at the state and local government levels, as well as federal offices close to home, in every state and U.S. territory.



Preparing Businesses for Emergencies, Natural, and Man-Made Disasters

This [CD-ROM toolkit](#) is designed to assist administrators of small to mid-sized businesses in preparing for emergencies and disasters. This toolkit includes a 10-question self-assessment, emergency preparedness plan forms, educational presentations, disaster scenario and exercise, videos and additional resources. The materials were created from a variety of government and university sources specializing in the topic areas.

"Open for Business" Preparedness Tool

The threat of a disaster-related closure is especially great for small to mid-sized businesses because they usually lack the financial resources for recovery, ability to spread their risk across several geographic locations, ready access to alternative suppliers and other advantages that most large organizations possess. [This tool](#) puts at your disposal the disaster planning and recovery expertise of the Institute for Business & Home Safety.

News

Thinking Like a Terrorist

In this three-part [video exposé](#), investigative reporter Carl Prine examines the thoughts and motivations of terrorists. The videos discuss the possible dangers posed by our nation's chemical plants and storage facilities, and our vulnerability to terrorist attack.

Free Language Tool

You can easily find out what languages are spoken in an area, and to what extent, by using a free [language map tool](#) provided by the Modern Language Association. The website also allows the user to rank the languages and break down the data into two age groups.

Bridge Collapse Resources

The listed [links](#) on this site provide important information for the public and health professionals about injuries, mass casualty events, and coping with a traumatic event.

Table of Contents...

Preparedness and Planning	1
Healthcare Preparedness	3
Communications	4
Surveillance	5
Pandemic Planning	5
Regional News	6
Other News	6
Training & Education	7

CDC Provides State-Based Statistics

In an effort to make more state-based information easily available, CDC/Washington is hosting a [website](#) that pulls together resources to provide access to state-based statistics and contact information for CDC-funded state-based programs. The site also includes one-page profiles of CDC funding by state.

Michigan Guide to Public Health for Local Governing Entities (LGE)

Governing entities dealing with such issues as emerging global infectious diseases, the provision of health promotion and disease prevention, and appropriate limits of policy and regulatory programs will find this new guide helpful. By updating your knowledge of the public health field, you will increase your ability to make decisions based on sound public health practice that will ultimately benefit the community you serve. The purpose of Michigan's [Guide to Public Health for Local Governing Entities](#) is to present a broad overview of public health, its accomplishments and impact, public health in Michigan, and key public health responsibilities of a LGE and health officer. We hope you find this Guide useful in your role as LGE members.

OSHA Develops Database of Chemical Information

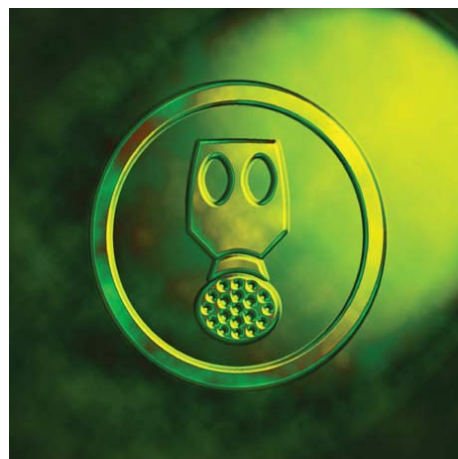
The Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) recently launched a database of information on more than 800 chemicals commonly found in the workplace. The OSHA/Environmental Protection Agency [Occupational Chemical Database](#) allows users to quickly and easily retrieve information on chemicals such as their physical properties and exposure limits. The database compiles information from several government agencies and organizations, including the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and the Department of Transportation.

Radiation Event Medical Management (REMM) Website

The [REMM website](#) is an information source for first receiver health care providers to assist them with clinical diagnosis issues and treatment questions during a mass casualty radiological or nuclear incident ("radiation event"). REMM also includes valuable information for the first responder health care provider. The REMM website provides comprehensive, just-in-time, evidence-based, usable information with sufficient background and context to make complex issues understandable to those without formal expertise or training in radiation medicine.

Chlorine Attacks in Iraq Questions U.S. Water-plant Security

A spate of deadly [chlorine bomb attacks](#) in Iraq is prompting the Bush administration to urge nearly 3,000 municipal water treatment plants in the United States to make sure their chlorine gas is well-protected. Although some plants have switched to less dangerous methods of disinfecting drinking and waste water, many still add chlorine gas to kill bacteria. The gas can also be used as a chemical weapon. In recent months, Iraqi insurgents have started attaching chlorine cylinders to car bombs and roadside explosives to burn people's lungs, eyes, and skin downwind from a blast. With chlorine bombs becoming a high-profile weapon of choice for terrorists abroad, officials at the Department of Homeland Security fear that terrorists might try to copy the tactic, making chlorine tanks at water plants an obvious target for sabotage or theft.



Lessons from the Frontline

Dr. Barbara Hillenbrand had her business continuity skills put to the test in the most extreme way; the plans she worked on were invoked during the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center. In [this article](#) Barbara shares her thinking on how to develop a good business continuity plan.

Healthcare Preparedness

Collaboration on Business Continuity and Disaster Preparedness

The Michigan Department of Community Health has been working with the Michigan Home Health Association (MHHA) on disaster preparedness planning for the home health care industry, utilizing planning materials which include a sample business continuity and disaster preparedness plan available from the

www.ready.gov website. This website provides a three-prong approach for creation of a business continuity plan: people, systems, and infrastructure. NOTE: The recommendations listed on the www.ready.gov website are endorsed by the Department of Homeland Security. They also reflect the emergency preparedness and business continuity standard (NFPA 1600) developed by the National Fire Protection Association.



MHHA is a state trade association for providers of home health care. The Association advocates for the role of home health care services within the comprehensive health care system. Membership consists of certified, private duty, hospice, home medical equipment and pharmacy/infusion organizations.

The Association is working on completion of its business continuity plan. They will also be encouraging all member organizations to complete a business continuity plan. Once completed, home health care organizations will then begin working with their local health department contacts and other preparedness partners to effectively coordinate business continuity and response activities within their respective city/county Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).

Home health care organizations, and the services they provide, are a critical asset at the local level, which must be included in the all planning, response, and recovery processes. MHHA member organizations, as service providers to special needs populations, must be connected to public health/healthcare emergency response activities to assist local health department jurisdictions in the identification and support of at-risk homebound disabled/special needs patients, identification and resolution of community problems and reporting to local/state officials. For further information on the Michigan Home Health Association, visit their website at www.mhha.org.

Disaster Planning and Response in Nursing Homes and Hospital Facilities

The Department of Health & Human Services' (HHS) Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has released a [new report](#) which is intended to help local communities identify the health care facilities (hospitals and nursing homes) that could be available and prepared to provide assistance under emergency conditions in their communities. The [Atlas](#) is available online.

Recommendations for Isolation Precautions for Healthcare

This [document](#) updates and expands the 1996 Guideline for Isolation Precautions in Hospitals. It provides recommended prevention and control practices for infectious diseases.

Improving Health System Preparedness for Terrorism and Mass Casualty Events

The American Medical Association and the American Public Health Association convened a series of leadership summits to develop a report to strengthen health system preparedness, response and resilience to terrorism and other catastrophic events. Recommendations in [the report](#) seek to ensure adequate funding to develop the critical infrastructure essential for day-to-day emergencies in such a way that it can be scaled up to meet the needs of larger and more severe emergencies; ensure that the response work force is sufficient both in numbers and appropriate level of proficiency in disaster preparedness and response; and ensure that our health care and public health systems are fully integrated and interoperable at all levels of government and with the civilian sector in ways that allow for a rapid and efficient disaster response.

Communications



Personal Disaster Preparedness Guide

Developed by Operation HOPE, a national organization that intends to empower underserved U.S. communities, this easy-to-use guide allows users to fill in important information, including emergency contacts, phone numbers, necessary medications, and meeting locations. The site then turns that information into a convenient *Personal Disaster Preparedness Guide* to be readily accessible during and after disaster. The guide is [available online](#).

Empathy in Risk Communication

In this article Peter Sandman, Risk Communications Consultant, discusses the importance of [empathy in Risk Communication](#). His primary point is that it's not only important to show empathy, but it's just as important how you show empathy.

Avian Influenza and Food Safety

A [nationwide survey](#) indicates that many Americans have misconceptions about food safety issues related to avian influenza. Nearly all (93%) of the respondents had heard of avian influenza, yet more than half said they knew little about it. Only about two-thirds of respondents were aware that most chicken sold in the United States is produced domestically, under tightly controlled conditions, and that poultry products from countries with H5N1 outbreaks are banned. When asked what they would do if the H5N1 virus turned up in U.S. chickens, 40% of respondents said they would stop eating chicken products, rather than limiting their risk by using proper cooking and food handling procedures. Targeted messages to consumers should include information on the safety of the U.S. poultry supply, food handling techniques to avoid cross-contamination, and properly cooking chicken to at least 165°F.

APHA's "Get Ready" Campaign

Launched in 2006, the American Public Health Association's (APHA) [Get Ready](#) campaign is working to help individuals, their families, and their communities become prepared for an influenza pandemic or outbreak of emerging infectious dis-



ease. This campaign was created to provide Americans with straightforward, easy-to-understand information and tools that will help them become more prepared. The campaign includes a website, fact sheets, a blog, podcasts, merchandise, news, and other resources. PHA's state and local affiliated public health associations are working to bring the campaign to the community level.

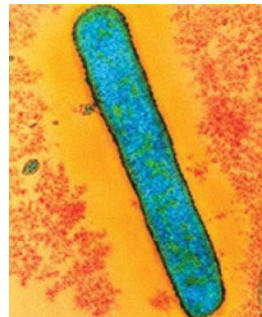
Surveillance

Duration of Influenza A Virus Shedding Longer than Expected

Adults infected with influenza A are generally considered infectious from the day before the onset of symptoms until about 5 days after onset. Longer periods of shedding have been described in children and immunocompromised patients. The estimated period of infectivity in adults guides current infection control guidelines for the prevention of influenza in acute care facilities, which recommend that patients hospitalized with suspected or confirmed influenza be placed under standard and droplet isolation precautions for 5 days after onset of symptoms. In addition, infected health care workers are encouraged to abstain from patient care for 5 days after onset of their symptoms. A recent [study](#) suggests that more prolonged isolation precautions may be necessary to prevent nosocomial outbreaks.

Why Anthrax Does Not Grow in Soil

Researchers at the North East Regional e-Science Center have found that the proteins the anthrax bacterium secretes equip it to grow only in an animal host and not in the soil. This [finding](#) sheds light on why *Bacillus anthracis* does not grow in soil, even though in many ways it resembles a soil-growing bacterium. It has the ability to lie dormant in soil for, in some cases, hundreds of years and then to cause a rapid, often fatal, illness when ingested by a suitable animal host.



Pandemic Planning

Review of Pandemic Flu Implementation Plan

On July 17, the White House Homeland Security Council released a one-year review of the [National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Implementation Plan](#). According to [the review](#), the progress made toward implementing the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza has made the United States better prepared to detect an outbreak of pandemic influenza, to support an international effort to contain a potential pandemic in its earliest stages, to limit the spread of a pandemic, and to save lives. Eighty-six percent of all action items in the Implementation Plan, that have a 12-month deadline, have been completed. The remaining fourteen percent are in progress and are expected to be completed within the next six months.

Pharmacy Organizations Create Guide to Prepare for Pandemics

The American Pharmacists Association (APhA), American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) and National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) Foundation have created a [document](#) that details how pharmacies can help raise awareness and educate the public in the fight against a pandemic and how planning by pharmacists and others can significantly reduce the impact of this disease.

H5N1 Re-assortment Can Occur Beyond Winter Months

World health experts have been working under a general assumption that a feared re-assortment between human and avian influenza viruses—a scenario that could spark a pandemic—might only occur during a short winter interval. Researchers who recently examined virus circulation patterns warn that [time frames](#) for co-infection are wider and sometimes unpredictable.

Cytokines and H5N1: Still No Clear Answers

One of the prevailing hypotheses on why the H5N1 is so deadly is the notion that those with stronger immune systems will be more likely to die from the virus because of a “cytokine storm”. The cytokine storm is thought to cause death not from the virus itself, but the immune system overreacting to it. [This article](#) highlights both sides of the debate on whether or not the cytokine storm exists and if it is responsible for deaths associated with H5N1.

Regional News

Raytheon Receives Prestigious Award

For four years, District 1 Regional Medical Coalition (D1RMRC) has been a Raytheon user of the Emergency Patient Tracking System. Raytheon Emergency Patient Tracking System received a very prestigious award, the Computerworld Honors Program Laureate award. The [Computerworld Honors](#) Program seeks to recognize organizations from a variety of sectors for their ongoing efforts to utilize technology in order to benefit society. Without D1RMRC and the Michigan Department of Community Health's Office of Public Health Preparedness's support, receiving the Computerworld Honors Program Award would have not been possible.

Other News

Botulism Associated with Commercially Canned Chili Sauce

[This report](#) describes the ongoing investigation by members of OutbreakNet and others, and the measures undertaken to control the outbreak. This is the first outbreak of food-borne botulism in the United States associated with a commercial canning facility in approximately 30 years. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have issued [“Questions & Answers”](#) related to the outbreak.

NCTC Launches Interactive Counter-terrorism Calendar

The National Counter-terrorism Center (NCTC) [website](#) has a new interactive counter-terrorism timeline, which allows users to explore key dates, including the anniversaries of terrorism-related incidents dating as far back as 1950. Each month of the timeline also provides a “Terrorist Profile” and a “This Day in History” highlight with accompanying photographs.



NIPP Progress

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has released a new report looking at how well the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is progressing in relation to the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP). Issued in June 2006, the NIPP is a base plan that serves as a road map for how DHS and other relevant stakeholders, such as owners and operators of key critical infrastructure, should use risk management principles to prioritize protection activities within and across sectors in an integrated, coordinated fashion.

The [GAO report](#) discusses the:

- extent to which sector-specific plans meet NIPP and DHS requirements
- government and sector coordinating council members' views on the value of the plans and DHS's review process
- key success factors and challenges that sector representatives reported they encountered in establishing and maintaining their councils

MDCH Bureau of Laboratories Centennial

On June 21, 2007, the Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) commemorated its centennial by hosting a reception at the Michigan Historical Museum. The reception included lab demonstrations, scientific posters, and remarks by Ms. Janet Olszewski (Department Director) and Dr. Frances Downes (Laboratory Director). The Department continued the celebration in July by displaying posters and photos highlighting recent scientific research and historical accomplishments in the Michigan Historical Museum/Library Rotunda, which ran from July 8-21. BOL laboratory scientists were available in the rotunda, July 14, to answer questions about the posters and photos being displayed as well as offer hands-on demonstrations. Some demonstrations included extracting DNA, pipetting, and an overview of bats and ticks. The Department would like to thank everyone for attending and the Michigan Historical Museum for allowing us to use their facility! Please visit the [BOL website](#) to view pictures from our past events.

Training & Education

MI-TRAIN Updated User Manual

MI-TRAIN is a learning management tool with thousands of courses, many free of charge, relating to public health. There are a variety of delivery methods for the many courses on MI-TRAIN such as lecture based, internet-based, self-paced, conferences, webinars, and CD-ROM. The MI-TRAIN user manual has been updated and is available on the [MI-TRAIN website](#). If you haven't visited MI-TRAIN, now is the time to see all of the educational opportunities that await you!

Date / Time	Event Description	Location
Aug. 15, 2007 1-4pm	MDCH Lab Summer Camp: Keeping Michigan Healthy The session has hands-on activities that will allow students to discover how historical events have impacted the goal of keeping Michigan communities healthy. Visit the MDCH Lab website for a copy of the course brochure and registration form. Please register your child for the session by contacting Ms Jo Anne Arasim at (517) 373-1905.	MI Historical Museum 702 W. Kalamazoo St. Lansing, MI 48915 (517) 373-3559
Aug. 27-28, 2007 7:15am-5:15pm	Pediatric Disaster Management Pediatric populations require a coordinated effort in both planning and clinical response. This conference provides an environment of collaborative learning, and is intended for those who play a role in the care and preparedness planning for children. Please see this document for more information and registration details.	DeVos Place 303 Monroe Ave. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49503 T: (616) 742-6500

Date / Time	Event Description	Location
Sep. 11, 2007 8:30am-4pm	Global Public Health Preparedness: Is It Possible? A distinguished group of international and national speakers will provide unique perspectives on preparing for catastrophic health events to addressing global health issues, controlling emerging infectious diseases, and developing the public health workforce in the international community. Registration is free. Visit the University of Michigan's School of Public Health website for more information.	Webcast University of Michigan SPH Crossroads 109 Observatory Ann Arbor, MI 48109
Sep. 12, 2007 Sep. 19 Sep. 26 Oct. 3 9am-2pm	Michigan Avian Influenza Rapid Response Workshops This series of workshops will be used to review avian influenza response plans, familiarize participants with communication protocols of outside agencies, increase interagency response coordination, and to educate participants on the Safe Work Practices guidelines for avian influenza. Seating is limited. For more information, including registration details, please see the informational flyer .	Gaylord Escanaba Grand Rapids Livonia
Oct. 9, 2007 Oct. 11 Oct. 30 Nov. 1 Nov. 7 Nov. 8 Nov. 14 Nov. 15	MDCH Immunization Conferences This conference will update health care professionals on immunization issues that affect people of all ages - from infants to the elderly and everyone in-between. Each of these one-day conferences will provide participants with a variety of practice-management tools, techniques, and information that will help assure that all of their patients are fully and appropriately immunized. More information, including registration details, is available online .	Marquette Gaylord East Lansing Troy Kalamazoo Kalamazoo Detroit Ypsilanti
Oct. 25-26, 2007	Is Your Health Center Prepared for an Emergency? Having a quality emergency preparedness plan is essential for maintaining services! This course will provide the knowledge, tools and resources needed to put a comprehensive plan together. See the informational flyer for more information.	Michigan State Univ. Henry Center 3535 Forest Road Lansing, MI 48910 (517) 353-4350
Nov. 16, 2007	Limited Healthcare Resources: Prioritizing Access in a Community Emergency, Cross-Border Perspectives The full-day program will examine, with audience participation, U.S. and Canadian perspectives on equitable allocation of scarce medical resources. What legal, medical, ethical and political factors come into play as prioritization models for limited distribution are designed and implemented? Registration details and materials will be available early fall 2007. Please contact the Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy at (716) 645- 2102 to register or for more information.	TBD



Mailing Address:
Office of Public Health Preparedness
Capitol View Building - 201 Townsend Street - Lansing, MI 48913
(517) 335-8150 — <http://www.michigan.gov/ophp>

This publication was supported by Cooperative Agreement Number U90/CCU517018-07 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of CDC.

